

EDUCATION (IRELAND).

ANNUAL REPORT of the COMMISSIONERS of EDUCATION in *Ireland*,
for the Year 1874-75.

TO HIS GRACE JAMES, DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G.,
LORD LIEUTENANT GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR
OF IRELAND, &c. &c. &c.

WE, "the Commissioners of Education in Ireland," constituted by Acts of Parliament passed in the reigns of their late Majesties King George the Third and King George the Fourth, and in obedience thereto respectfully submit to your Grace a general Report of their Proceedings since that of last year.

The General Proceedings of this Board during the past year have been of the same ordinary and somewhat routine character as that of the Annual Reports for preceding years; and, in our opinion, must continue in future years to be open to a similar remark, unless the Legislature shall think fit to confer on this Corporation some of the additional powers which we, from time to time, in our Annual Reports have taken the liberty to bring under the notice of the Executive Government. And so strongly are we convinced of the necessity for the extension of our powers, that, with a view to bringing our suggestions more prominently under your Grace's notice, we have appended to this Report extracts from some of our former Annual Reports, in reference to this most important subject.

As regards the Armagh Royal School, we beg to report to your Grace that, notwithstanding the considerable additions to the School Buildings generally, and to the Class and Lecture-rooms, carried out within the last few years under our directions, the accommodation supplied is stated to be wholly insufficient, in consequence of the increased number of youths seeking admission. And at the solicitation of the Head Master, who has reported to us that every seat in the School is occupied, and that he has been obliged to refuse admission to several candidates, both as boarders and daily pupils, we have directed our architect to prepare for our consideration plans and estimates for increased accommodation in the Class and Lecture-rooms.

The recent periodical returns furnished to us do not exhibit any material variations from those presented for late years from the other Royal Schools.

The course of instruction afforded in the Royal Schools is of a very extended and general character; and the charges for the instruction of the daily pupils in

attendance at them has been reduced to the moderate scale suggested by us, and promptly adopted by the respective Head Masters.

And we beg to state to your Grace, that feeling that it would be desirable to give a stimulus in the Royal Schools to an English and mercantile education of a higher standard than that which heretofore has been customary, we have resolved in granting to pupils, whilst at the respective Schools, certain pecuniary prizes or rewards to be obtained as the results of examinations, to be held annually at the Schools.

At the Raphoe Royal School we have to state that the detached infirmary which, in compliance with the pressing requests of the Master, we caused to be erected, has been completed, and is now ready for occupation if necessary.

At Fenniskillen Royal School, the arrangements for a new water supply at high pressure to the top of the buildings have been carried out, and are now in full operation.

At the Banagher Royal School premises an accidental fire occurred at night which totally destroyed a large detached school-room, and injured some of the out offices. The Insurance Company in whose office the premises had been insured have paid the amount of the claim against it, and the buildings are now in a state of restoration; and we trust that the entire will be completed before our next Annual Report. The business of the School has suffered no interruption in consequence of the fire, or during the progress of the works.

The occurrence of this fire at Banagher caused our attention to be particularly directed to the sums for which the other Royal School Houses were insured; and, on consultation with our architect, and acting on his recommendation, we have very considerably increased the amounts for which they were respectively insured; and we beg further to state, that we have, by the expenditure at the different School premises, of such outlays as were found to be necessary, kept them in the satisfactory state in which they are reported to be at present.

The Estates constituting the Endowments of the Royal Schools are, under our superintendence, managed by local land agents. And we beg to state that, generally, they are in a satisfactory condition, and the tenancies on them comfortable and well conducted.

And we have the satisfaction to report, that the different Primary Schools established by us on certain of our Estates, continue to be largely attended by the children of the locality.

In reference to the Royal Scholarships in Trinity College, founded by us, and which can only be obtained by pupils after a severe competitive examination in a course of instruction of a very extensive character, selected and frequently varied by us, and which Scholarships are tenable solely by students who win, in every year of their under-graduate course, a prescribed number of honours, we beg to submit a list of the present holders, and the annual amount payable to each.

On the Armagh Royal School Foundation.

£.		£.	
J. W. King	- 50 per annum.	H. King	- 50 per annum.
P. G. Sandford	- 50 "	J. O. N. Hickson	- 50 "

On

On the Cavan Royal School Foundation.

£.		£.	
J. Woodrooffe -	- 20 per annum.	C. Mease -	- 25 per annum.

On the Dungannon Royal School Foundation.

£.		£.	
H. D. Bell -	- 40 per annum.	R. Manders -	- 50 per annum.
A. Samuels -	- 50 "	A. Williamson -	- 30 "
E. W. Hobson -	- 30 "	J. Ringwood -	- 50 "
W. Beatty -	- 50 "	A. A. Hamilton -	- 30 "
W. Irwin -	- 30 "		

On the Euniskillen Royal School Foundation.

£.		£.	
R. Galbraith -	- 50 per annum.	J. McDowell -	- 30 per annum.
B. Cransie -	- 30 "	H. Beatty -	- 50 "
L. C. Parser -	- 50 "	L. W. Rutledge -	- 30 "
R. McDowell -	- 30 "	G. Garrett -	- 50 "
W. T. Lendrum -	- 50 "	J. Sharkey -	- 30 "

Of the Schools of private endowment, that founded by the Countess of Orkney, at Middleton, in the County of Cork, appears both from the number of pupils in attendance, and from the Reports of the Trustees and Visitors presented to us, to be the most successful.

As regards the Navan and Ballyroan Endowment, which is also one of private foundation, we beg to report, that having recently ascertained that all the lives in the lease of lives renewable for ever had expired, we procured from the proper parties a fee-farm grant of the School premises. That we have succeeded in abating a serious nuisance which threatened to be most injurious to the prospects of the School; and that, under the energetic management of its present Master, there is now for the first time a fair probability of this Endowment becoming of public utility. And with the view of assisting the Master in his endeavours to establish a School, and to correct what heretofore was considered an abuse, we have decided on granting to pupils attending this School certain annual prizes dependent on examinations to be held by examiners unconnected with the School.

The Tullyvin private endowment in the County of Cavan, which is one founded for the humbler classes in that district, has been raised to a high degree of efficiency; and the attendance of pupils is very large, which valuable result has been achieved, mainly through the active care and superintendence of its local Governors.

In reference to the Church School at Glengariffe, we have to report that we have handed to the Irish Church Representative Body, to hold in trust for that School, the small sum of money which we had heretofore recovered for it in the Encumbered Estates Court.

All which we respectfully submit to your Grace as our Report.

(signed)	SAMUEL MEATH.	(L. S.)
	JAMES WHITESIDE, Chief Justice.	(L. S.)
	J. D. FITZGERALD.	(L. S.)
	H. LLOYD, D.D.	(L. S.)
	WILLIAM B. KIRKPATRICK, D.D.	(L. S.)

June 1875.

Wm. Cotter Kyle, LL.D., M.R.I.A., &c.,

Secretary.

ROYAL SCHOLARSHIPS.

REGULATIONS of "The Commissioners of Education in Ireland," for 1875.

"THE Commissioners of Education in Ireland" have founded 30 Exhibitions, called "Royal Scholarships," for students who shall enter Trinity College from the Royal Schools of Armagh, Dungannon, Enniskillen, or Cavan, viz., five Scholarships of 50*l.* per annum each for Armagh School; five of 50*l.* per annum, and five of 30*l.* per annum for each of the Schools of Dungannon and Enniskillen; and five of 25*l.* per annum for Cavan School.

These Scholarships can be obtained by such students only as have been three years in all, previously to their entrance into Trinity College, pupils in some one or other of the Royal Schools. It is not, however, hereby intended to prevent pupils from moving from one of these schools to another; but the Scholarships founded for the respective Schools of Armagh, Dungannon, Enniskillen, and Cavan, can be obtained only by students who have entered the University from the schools for which such Scholarships have been founded.

The Scholarships are tenable for five years, subject to certain conditions hereafter mentioned.

The Provost and Senior Fellows appoint Examiners in each year, to examine, on the first convenient day after the second entrance, in the month of October, such students as have entered from the said four Royal Schools, and shall offer themselves as candidates for these Scholarships.

In 1875 the examinations will be in the following subjects:—

I.—Greek and Latin Classics (200 marks).

1. Two Greek and two Latin authors included in the ordinary entrance course of Trinity College, together with one Greek and one Latin author not so included, to be examined *visd voce*. The books appointed for the year 1875 are:

Homer's "Iliad," Books V., VI., and VII. Virgil's "Æneid," Books I., II., VI., VII. Euripides, "Bacchæ," edited by Tyrrell. Caesar, "de Bello Gallico," Books I., II., III. Xenophon, "Anabasis," Books I., II., III. Terence, "Phormio."

2. Passages from Greek and Latin authors, not named beforehand, for translation in writing.
3. Greek and Latin Prose Composition.
4. Paper of questions in Ancient History. [Books recommended—Dr. Smith's "Grecian History"; Liddell's smaller "Roman History."]

II.—English Language (100 marks).

1. Language and Literature.

[Books recommended—Trench, "English, Past and Present," Abbott and Seeley, "English Lessons for English People." "Student's Manual of English Literature." Smith's "Specimens of English Literature."]

Candidates will be expected to be well acquainted with the following works, viz.—Milton's "Paradise Lost," Books I. and II.; Milton's "Samson Agonistes"; Shakspeare, "Hamlet" and "The Tempest."

2. English Composition.
3. History of England.—[Book recommended—Student's Hume.]

III.—Modern Languages (50 marks).

French or German.

IV.—Science (100 marks).

1. Arithmetic.
2. Algebra, to the end of Quadratic Equations.
3. Euclid, Books I., II., III., and VI.
4. Plane Trigonometry, including the solution of plane Triangles.
5. Geography, Descriptive and Physical.

Note.—The course of examination for Royal Scholarships will be varied, from time to time, by the Commissioners.

Candidates

Candidates may present themselves for examination in any of the four preceding courses, or in all of them. The result of the examination will be determined by the aggregate number of marks obtained by the several candidates; the number affixed to each course denoting the greatest number of marks obtainable in that course.

No fellow-commoner can be admitted as a candidate for a Royal Scholarship.

No pensioner shall be admitted as a candidate for a Royal Scholarship who shall not have remained at one of the Royal Schools to which the Scholarships are attached till an entrance examination in Trinity College, in the month of October next preceding the examination for Royal Scholarships.

No *sizar* shall be admitted as a candidate, who shall not have remained at such Royal School till the *sizarship* entrance examination immediately preceding the examination for Royal Scholarships, at which he may be a candidate.

No student who shall have attained 20 years of age shall be permitted to become a candidate for a Royal Scholarship.

No student shall be elected a Royal Scholar unless he shall have, previously to the examination, produced to the Secretary of the Commissioners a certificate signed by the Master of the Royal School from which he shall have entered Trinity College, certifying that such candidate is duly qualified according to the above-stated rules, such certificate to be handed by the candidate to the Examiners.

The candidates from all the schools shall be examined together, and a return made to the Commissioners of their positive merit; and also an arrangement of the candidates according to their answering, without distinction of schools; the Commissioners reserving to themselves the power of suspending or diminishing one or more Scholarships, if sufficient merit has not been shown.

In cases of equality of merit, in all other respects, the poverty of a candidate will be taken into consideration. A student who has once been a candidate shall not be eligible on a subsequent occasion.

A Royal Scholarship becomes forfeited by the holder of it incurring any heavy collegiate censure, such as public admonition, or rustication; failing to proceed regularly with his class; or failing to obtain in any year either one honour of the first rank, or two honours of the second rank.

The election itself to one of these Scholarships is reckoned as equivalent to one honour of the second rank; a University Moderatorship, a University Scholarship, the Berkeley Gold Medal, the Lloyd Exhibition, the Wray Prize, success in the first Indian Civil Service (competitive) examination, or at the Woolwich entrance examination, as equivalent to a University honour of the first rank, and obtaining a respondentship, or success at any of the subsequent Indian Civil Service examinations as equivalent to a University honour of the second rank.

The exhibitions become due half-yearly, viz., on the 1st of May and on the 1st of November. Payments will be made in May to such students only as have obtained in the preceding part of that year at least one honour of the second rank. A half-yearly payment, held over in May, will be made in November, provided an honour has been obtained in the meantime; and payment for the entire year will be made in November to such students as had not qualified for the May half-year's payment, and shall have then fulfilled all the requisites for the entire year.

In cases where very distinguished merit has been shown during their undergraduate course by students holding minor Scholarships, and where Scholarships for the same school remain suspended, or have been forfeited, the Commissioners will, at the close of each year, receive memorials from such students for an increase of their stipend.

The names of the Royal Scholars are placed on the College books, immediately after the names of the University scholars, without, however, altering their degree of seniority amongst their class-fellows.

MIDLETON SCHOOL.

"The Commissioners of Education in Ireland" will grant annually two prizes, one of 30 *l.* and one of 20 *l.*, to such junior freshmen as shall, subject to the rules prescribed for the Royal Schools, have entered Trinity College, Dublin, from Middleton School; and having been examined along with and in the same course as the candidates for the Royal Scholarships, shall be recommended by the examiners as deserving candidates.

(signed) *William Cotter Kyle, LL.D.,*
Secretary to "The Commissioners of Education in Ireland."

8, Clare-street, November 1874.

EXTRACTS FROM RECENT ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND
TO GOVERNMENT,

Suggesting the Granting to the BOARD certain POWERS and AUTHORITIES in addition to those conferred by 53 Geo. 3, c. 107, A.D. 1813; 3 Geo. 4, c. 79, A.D. 1822; and 17 & 18 Vict. c. 94, and Schedule.

EXTRACT from ANNUAL REPORT, 1869-70.

"HAVING concluded our General Report, we now take the liberty most respectfully to submit to your Excellency's consideration certain suggestions, which, if carried into effect by the Legislature, would, we are convinced, be of considerable advantage.

"The necessity for the attendance at our meetings of one of the Commissioners, who are, *virtute officii*, Members of the Board, should no longer be required to give legality to our acts, or to the affixing the Corporate Seal to any document.

"Any three of the Commissioners assembled in pursuance of a general notice for a meeting should form a quorum for the transaction of business, as fully and effectually as if all the Members of the Board were personally present.

"Except in the cases of private patronage, this Commission should have the power to appoint, to promote, to remove, and to superannuate the various masters and teachers of the respective Schools.

"This Commission should be distinctly empowered to appoint Inspectors of Schools, and to pay them such sums as may be fixed by resolution of the Board.

"The necessity which at present exists for confining University Exhibitions to certain Schools whose funds are ample for that purpose, should cease.

"The Commissioners should have the power to apply the funds of all Public Schools for Exhibitions in connection with any School or Schools they may think fit to select for that purpose.

"The Commissioners should have the power to apply the funds of largely Endowed Schools to the assistance in aid of the funds of those Schools which are not so largely endowed, generally, and in any manner that may seem to be expedient; and should have complete power to remove Schools of Public Endowment to whatever localities may seem to be most advantageous to the public.

"The Commissioners should have the power to select, determine, and alter the course of instruction, and the hours at which it shall be given, in the various Schools; the times and durations of the School vacations; the amount of School fees to be paid by daily pupils; and also should have power to appoint a certain number of daily pupils, who shall receive gratuitous instruction at each School."

EXTRACT from ANNUAL REPORT for 1870-71.

"THAT having in our previous Annual Reports brought under the notice of Government the fact that the powers conferred upon us are very defective, we felt coerced by a sense of duty to bring this matter specially under your Excellency's consideration in the Report presented by us last year; in it we took the liberty to press upon the notice of your Excellency certain suggestions, the adoption of which appeared to us to be absolutely necessary to enable us properly to discharge the duties of our office. We then urged the advantage that would arise from conferring upon this Commission much enlarged powers, such as that of appointing, removing, and superannuating the Masters and Ushers of the different Schools, and a greater extent of control over the School proceedings, and their arrangements generally. We stated that in our opinion the funds which constitute the respective Endowments should be fully confided to the management of this Board, and that the Commissioners should have power to employ them for the benefit of such other Schools as they might think judicious, and not to confine them to individual Schools, as is now the case; that the Exhibitions and Scholarships conferred by us should not, as is under the present law necessary, be restricted to pupils educated at particular Schools, but should, under certain regulations,

lations, be thrown open to a general competition amongst youths educated at other Schools. That this Board should have ample powers to appoint and to pay Inspectors and Visitors, who should, under its direction, from time to time, visit and report on the Schools under our supervision; and we beg most earnestly, but respectfully, to call your Excellency's special attention to the recommendations more specially set forth in our Report for 1869 and 1870; and having done so, we beg to submit a general Report of the Proceedings of the Board since the presentation of that Report."

EXTRACT FROM ANNUAL REPORT for 1871-72.

"In many of our former Annual Reports, but especially in those for 1869-70 and for 1870-71, we took the liberty to submit to your Excellency's consideration suggestions (which appeared to us to be most important) for the varying and the enlargement of the very limited powers conferred on this Commission, in reference to the funds which form the Endowments of Schools committed to us; and also as to the selection, control, promotion, and supervision of the Teachers. We urged the necessity that exists for the appointment of paid Visitors or Inspectors of the Schools and Establishments generally; and we pointed out certain alterations in our constitution which, in our opinion, would be of great public advantage; and having heretofore brought these matters specifically under your Excellency's notice, we feel that we now sufficiently discharge our duties in respect to these suggestions and modifications by respectfully, but urgently, recalling your Excellency's attention to the Annual Reports alluded to."

EXTRACT FROM ANNUAL REPORT for 1873-74.

"The fact that our Annual Reports are characterised by a great degree of sameness and generality has been frequently brought under the notice of the Executive Government of the day, and by us attributed to the insufficiency of the powers conferred on this Commission, and upon more than one occasion, but especially in our Report for the year 1869-70, to which we beg respectfully to refer your Grace, we called special attention to this important circumstance, and, at the same time, urgently pressed certain suggestions, which, if adopted, would, in our opinion, by improving and enlarging our powers, enable us to discharge our duties in a manner much more advantageous to the public."

"In our Annual Reports for the year 1870-71, and for 1871-72, we again specially referred to the same subject, but we regret to state that as yet our often-repeated suggestions have been wholly unproductive of any result, and matters have been permitted to remain in the same unsatisfactory condition as heretofore."

Wm. Cotter Kyle, LL.D.,
Secretary.

EDUCATION IRELAND

ANNUAL REPORT of the Commissioners of
Education in Ireland, for the Year 1846

(Printed pursuant to Act of Parliament)

Printed by the State of Germany, at the
of July 1846